

REMARKS

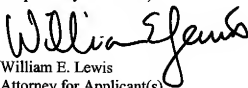
The present application was filed on January 21, 2004 with claims 1-13. In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121. More particularly, the Office Action asserts that the present application contains claims directed toward the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: (a) Species I – claims 1-4 and 9-12; and (b) Species II – claims 5-8 and 13.

In this response, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species I, i.e., claims 1-4 and 9-12, for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants traverse the election requirement. Independent claim 1, an embodiment of which is illustrated in FIG. 7, recites a multiplier comprising: a Wallace tree block (e.g., Wallace tree block 110 in FIG. 7) calculating partial products for two input values as objects of multiplication and adding the partial products into a redundant binary form; and a carry propagation adder (e.g., carry propagation adder 120 in FIG. 7) converting a redundant binary number outputted from the Wallace tree block into a two's complement form, wherein the Wallace tree block comprises: a sum calculation block (e.g., sum calculation block 111 in FIG. 7) adding the partial products, and a carry calculation block (e.g., carry calculation block 112 in FIG. 7) adding carries generated by the sum calculation block. Independent claim 5, an embodiment of which is also illustrated in FIG. 7, recites at least a portion of a Wallace tree block (e.g., Wallace tree block 111 of FIG. 7). For example, the recited “a multiplier multiplying two input values as objects of multiplication by calculating partial products for the two input values and adding the partial products using half adders and full adders” may refer to at least part of the Wallace tree block 110 in FIG. 7.

Accordingly, Applicants assert that, in the interest of conservation of resources for the Patent Office as well as the Applicants, claims 1-13 should be examined together. Withdrawal of the election requirement in the present application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William E. Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being more prominent and the last name "Lewis" written in a more compact, cursive style.

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